



NEW JERSEY
WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey
Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
Landisville
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
Swedesboro
Phone: (856)476-0313
Hightstown
Phone: (609)448-0193
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Volume 67No. 26

Date: October 3, 2005

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania

Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ

8 am EDT Mon, October 3, 2005

Rainfall amounts, none through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying, southeast 5 mph today and Tuesday, light and variable tonight.

Relative humidity in percent, 40 to 50 today, near 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday.

Dew points, mostly in the 50s through Tuesday.

Drying conditions, good today and again Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew, heavy dew tonight and Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 70 today, 70 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Temperatures in the representative bogs should remain above freezing for the next several nights.

Late season hay cutting will see excellent conditions for the next several days with low humidity and little threat of rain before Thursday.

Soil moisture remains very short in most locations.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 10, 2005, through October 16, 2005 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8 am 10/03/05

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 60 degrees north, 62 degrees central, and 63 degrees south. Extremes were 86 degrees at Hammonton on September 27, 2005, and 38 degrees at Flemington on September 28, 2005.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.33 inches north, 0.29 inches central, and 0.20 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.34 inches at New Brunswick on the September 26, 2005 through September 27, 2005.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 76 percent north, 61 percent central and 42 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 55 degrees north, 64 degrees central and 65 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, October 3, 2005										
Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -										

*Departure from normal.
1/ Growing degree days since March 1, 2005, total and departure from normal or long term average.
2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

Dry Weather Conditions Continue

Outdoor activities included harvesting corn for silage and grain, cutting and baling hay, irrigating, picking apples, reseeding of pastures, seeding of small grains, and harvesting fall vegetables. Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, October 2, 2005, were 6.8. Topsoil moisture was rated 75% very short and 25% short. Rainfall ranged from 0.14 inch to 0.46 inch. Temperatures were above normal during the week. Corn for silage harvest neared completion in some localities. Hay yields were effected by lack of moisture. Soybean harvest continued. Sweetpotato harvest continued. Harvest of fall vegetables continued. Vegetables were rated in mostly fair to good condition. Pumpkin crop condition was rated mostly good. Apple harvest continued. Apple crop condition was rated good to excellent. Grape harvest progressed with dry weather leading to high brix and flavor and yield. Pasture was rated in mostly poor to fair condition, and need for supplemental feeding continued.

Jersey Fresh Availability for October 3, 2005

- Arugula & Cilantro

- Harvesting good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.
- Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach

- Harvesting in good quality and volume.
- Basil

- Harvesting in good quantity and quality until frost.
- Beets

- Harvesting in good quantity and quality.
- Broccoli

- Harvesting good quality product in light to increasing quantity in Central Jersey.
- Brussel Sprouts

- Beginning to harvest this week in Central Jersey.
- Cabbage

- Now harvesting a fall crop in good quantity and quality.
- Cantaloupes

- Finishing up.
- Cauliflower

- Beginning to harvest this week in Central Jersey.
- Collards & Kale

- Harvesting in good quantity and quality.
- Cucumbers & Pickles

(Kirby cucumbers) - Harvesting a fall crop in good quantity and quality.
- Dill

- Harvesting in good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.
- Eggplant

- Harvesting great quality Italian and Asian varieties in fair to decreasing quantity. The fall brings out the best in this vegetable.
- Escarole/Endive

- Harvesting a very good quality fall crop in good volume.
- Greens

- Good quality and quantities harvested of Kholrabi, Mustard, and Swiss Chard.
- Green Beans

- Harvesting good quality in light to decreasing quantity.
- Green Onions & Leeks

- Spring planted varieties are available in good quality and quantity.

- Lettuces

- Harvesting good quality Boston, Red, and Green Leaf in good quantity. Romaine lettuce harvesting in light to increasing volume. Iceberg lettuce starting next week.
- Nectarines

- Finishing up.
- Okra

- Harvesting in light to decreasing quantity and good quality. Finishing up.
- Parsley

- Harvesting in good quantity and quality.
- Peaches

- Finishing up.
- Peppers

- Harvesting good quality in fair to decreasing quantity. We also have an excellent assortment of great quality hot peppers available. It's been a very good growing season for hot peppers.
- Pumpkins

- Downy mildew set in early this year in some fields due to another cool and wet spring. Growers that haven't been spraying all season will have problems. These will be hard to source in Jersey this year.
- Spinach

- Harvesting a good quantity of good quality product.
- Squash

- Harvesting good quality Yellow and Zucchini in good quantities. Also harvesting a good volume of good quality Acorn, Butternut & Spaghetti squashes.
- Sweet Corn

- Harvesting in fair to decreasing quantity and fair to good quality. Quantity and quality normally varies a bit in the fall due to insect pressures.
- Sweet Potatoes

- Harvesting good quality and quantity.
- Tomatoes & Plum Tomatoes

- Harvesting good quality rounds and plums in fair to decreasing quantity.
- White Potatoes

- Harvesting a good volume of the redskin variety Norland and Superior round variety. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.
- Jersey Fresh Forecast
- Cranberries

- The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries should begin sometime next week though the increasing demand for white cranberries has seen them harvested already.